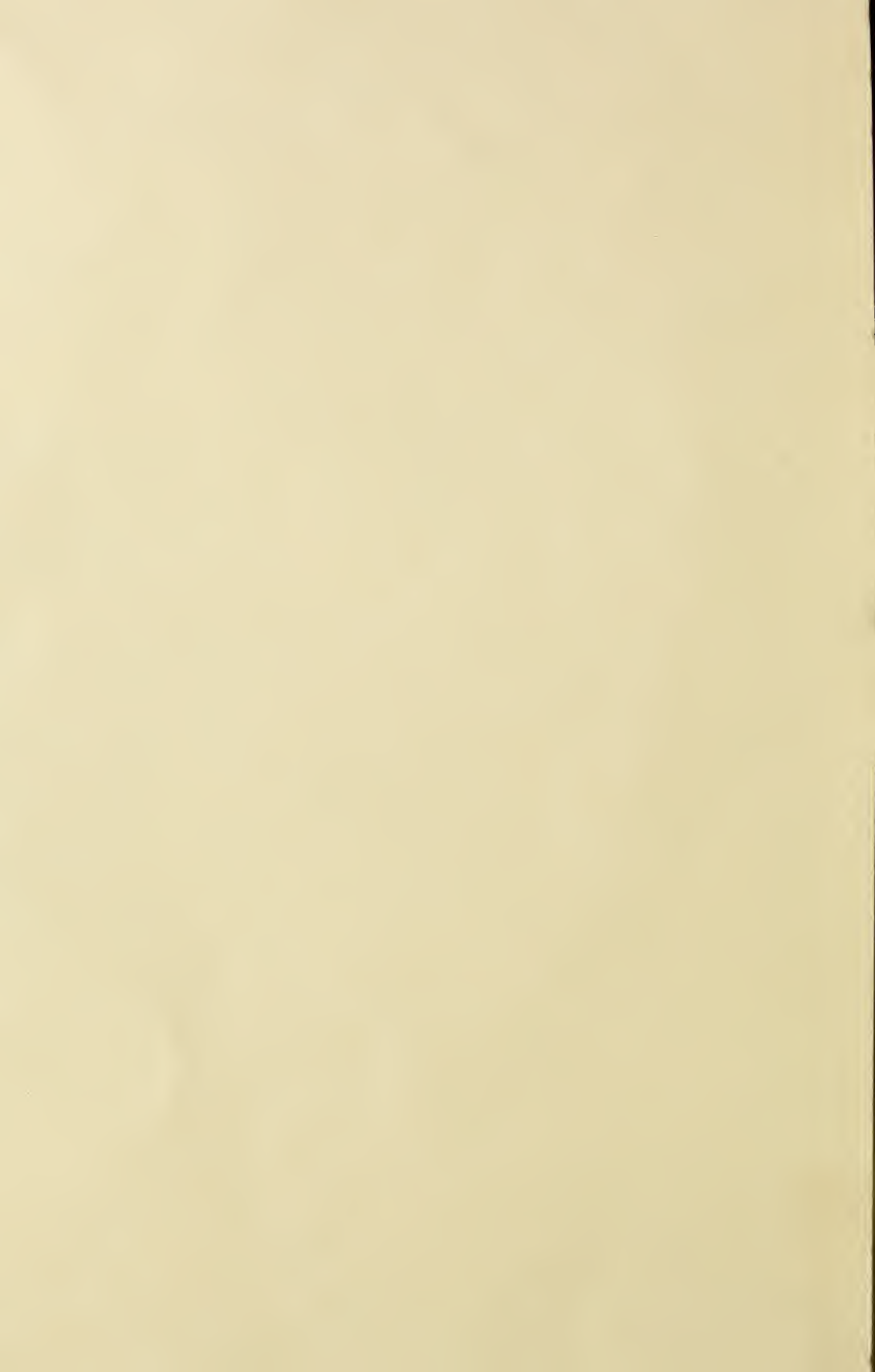


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MARYLAND

DEVOTED TO
AGRICULTURE, HORTICULTURE,



FARMER:

LIVE STOCK
and RURAL ECONOMY.

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No. 8.

Farm Work for August.

The month of August may be called the winding-up month of the making of the crops for the year; it is the last month of Summer. In August the bulk of the great peach crop matures and other fruit becomes abundant; corn and other grain come to maturity, while the hay and the small grain crops have been secured. Wheat, &c., is usually threshed and cleaned this month, if not marketed. The melon and the tomato crops are now crowding the markets, and each have become, and are yearly on the increase, important branches of trade. The melon culture, in certain localities, is profitable, and it, with the sweet potato, adds greatly to the industrial pecuniary resources of the people of the Middle and Southern States.

CORN.—This crop, owing to many reasons, has proved backward, but is now "laid by," we presume. If we have a wet August, a good crop may be expected.

CLOVER SEED.—By sowing clover seed this month, and before the 20th of next month, an early crop next year is secured, and the chance offered to sow it over in Winter or next Spring, should the sowing now fail to take.

CLEANING THE FIELDS AND FALLOWING.—The fields should now be gone over and the briars and bushes cut and grubbed up and piled in heaps for burning when dry. Clean out the fence corners, trim up the trees, and if there be time, haul the

turf from the fence bulks and the high lands to the poor spots or to the barn yard for compost and to absorb the liquids. Ditch the wet places and underdrain, if possible—but get rid of the surplus water that stagnates in the soil.

STOCK.—The pastures are commonly bare at this season of the year, and stock become troublesome, therefore the fences ought to be kept in order, that they may not acquire the habit of breaking out of the enclosure. As we have often said, there is no use in keeping poor, indifferent stock half starved. Keep all you can, but keep no more than you can keep well, and let it be of the most approved kind of its particular breed. Two good cows properly fed and managed of some one of the best breeds will give more satisfaction, cost less in keeping and yield a yearly profit much greater than half a dozen half starved, badly milked and managed common old fielders.

It is important that stock of all kinds be well cared for this month, as the pasture is generally deficient. It should be helped by feeding green fodder or grain with some vegetables or fruits. Keep the stock this month well fed, for the flies and insects of all sorts do them much harm at this season and annoy them greatly. Let them have pure water, salt and shade in abundance.

TOBACCO.—Try and keep it clean of worms; top it low, and do not permit the suckers to intrude. House it when ripe and handle each plant carefully. There is

now great competition all over the country in growing this money-making crop, therefore it requires every year more attention, care and judgment to grow, cure and condition it.

TURNIPS.—Prepare the ground intended for turnips by deep plowing and manuring, then get into good tilth by frequent harrowing; fertilize with bone-dust or superphosphate—sow the seed broadcast or in drills 18 inches apart, which is much the better plan—sow between the 10th and 25th of the month. Keep clear of weeds, thin to 6 inches apart in the drill. Sow turnips in the rich spots and low grounds among the corn—they often prove a good crop without any work.

RUTA BAGA.—Keep the Ruta Baga free from grass and well worked. A dressing of leached ashes, bone-meal and plaster in equal quantities would be of much service to this crop at this stage. It is presumed it has, however, been highly fertilized, besides the land made rich with stable manure, applied some time before the seed was sown.

ORCHARDS.—Kill the caterpillars and other insects—remove the broken limbs; thin the fruit where too crowded; prop limbs that are likely to break off, and pick up all the fallen fruit and dispose of it to the cows and hogs.

POULTRY.—As the moulting season for poultry is at hand, they require attention and good feeding—keep the poultry-house clean and whitewashed—the floors covered with short dry grass or straw, and see that the fowls have access to a plenty of clean water, with grass or vegetable leaves, or a few hours' run in plowed ground or grass lands. Have low roosts for the improved breeds of the large kind, such as Cochins, Brahmas, &c.—they often injure themselves by getting down from high roosts.

Never speak lightly of religion.

Garden Work for August.

To the amateur gardener, and the ordinary private gardeners on the farm, this is a month of comparative leisure—but to the marketgardener it is very different. In small gardens for private use but little is required to be done except keeping the ground clean, saving seeds, preparing beds, from which crops have been gathered, for sowing seeds the last of the month and the first of the next.

Celery.—Plant out in trenches or on level ground 4 inches apart in rows 3 feet apart, if not already done—water freely—shade in middle of the day. Use liquid manure and weak brine once or twice a week, by side of plants, not on them; over the plants a little sprinkle of water daily. By forcing a rapid growth this popular and valuable vegetable will be tender and yet large.

Cauliflower.—Do not let cauliflowers suffer for want of work and water.

Strawberry Beds.—Keep strawberry vines free from weeds and all runners, except those intended for planting.

Ockra and Corn.—Cut in slices and dry ockra for Winter. This plant is delightful for flavoring and thickening soups—indispensable in vegetable soups and succotash.

Onions.—Sow seeds of the onion thickly, in drills or broadcast for setts next Spring. They may be taken up late this Autumn or covered with coarse manure and left in the ground all Winter. Some persons sow the seed thin in drills and then thin them to two or three inches apart, in rich ground. Cover well the spaces between the rows or drills with half-rotten manure, before frost sets in, and protect with straw and brush during Winter, by which process early onions are often obtained.

Beets.—The seed of the long blood beet may yet be sowed for Winter use.

Lettuce.—Sow a small bed of lettuce to

plant out next month.

Seeds.—Let us earnestly advise you to be careful and save seeds from your most perfect vegetables, especially tomato, egg plant, largest peppers, lettuce and other sorts that are not always true to name when bought from Seedsmen. A few seeds of prime specimens are easily saved and will suffice for a private family. One feels secure if he sows the seed he saved himself.

✻ *Caterpillars, &c.*—Keep all the small fruits and bushes and dwarf trees, indeed all the trees in the garden, free from these terrible pests.

Keep the whole garden neat and tidy. Suffer no weed or grass to seed. This is the time to effectually destroy troublesome weeds or grasses.

Dry Manuring.

A great deal has been said in favor of green manuring, or the plowing under of such crops as clover, field peas, rye, &c., to enrichen a worn out or exhausted soil. And in many respects it is certain that this method of manuring is cheap and beneficial. But I believe that too much has been expected of it. A green crop can add nothing to the soil that it does not at first derive from the soil, or from the atmosphere; and as the atmospheric elements are organic only, it follows that green manure can supply no mineral elements of which the soil may be deficient. As it is the inorganic parts of the soil that constitutes the foundation of all fertility, it does not appear that green manuring, by itself, can ever permanently enrichen a soil. Hence it is always necessary to follow up this method of fertilization with applications of lime, plaster, marl, &c. To make the process complete, requires considerable labor, time, land, and some capital.

Instead of green manuring, I recommend as the next best and cheapest, perhaps the best and cheapest method of all, that of dry manuring. By this I mean the substitution of any dry matter, such as straw, leaves, forest mould, chips, &c., in place of the green crop. In other words, it is a summer mulch of dead matter, hauled

and spread upon the land, to let lie through the summer, and perhaps the following winter, or until the ground is broken by the plow.

This method of manuring also requires extra land and time. The ground must lie idle several months or a year, but as most farms are divided into shifts, and cultivated alternately every second or third year, this is really no objection. Material hauled on to the land, whether from the forest or farm pen, in its decay, adds mineral matter to the land, and thus does more than the green manure can do. At the same time, if enough is applied, it shades the soil as effectually as a green crop, and thus imparts nitrogen and other organic matter the same as the other. It also loosens up the soil and improves its mechanical texture to a remarkable degree. Who has not noticed how mellow the soil will become beneath a heap of brush or rubbish? The shade, or something else, enrichens the ground too, for it a pile of brush is simply removed without burning, the spot where it stood will produce better plants than the surrounding soil.

I have witnessed such great benefits from dry manuring when allowed to lay as summer mulch, that I am disposed to believe it is the only proper use to make of this kind of manure, and that the spring or early summer is the proper time to apply it. I think if all fallow fields were covered over in summer with wood and litter or the like, and the land plowed in Autumn, that the soil would improve and good crops be made indefinitely. B. W. J.

For the Maryland Farmer.

The Fence Corners.

The fence corner should receive about as much attention as the land they border upon, yet they very frequently get no attention whatever, and if they are ever neglected it is just when they most need attention—at this season of the year. During harvest and the busy after month the farmer fully realizes the difficulty of having work done in season; he is sure to be long on work and short on laborers, and as the harvest must be saved at all hazards, such odd jobs as cutting the growth in the fence corners is apt to be neglected. Yet this is the very time when the weeds in these favored localities are maturing their seed

and when they should be cut. If allowed to stand, their seeds will be disseminated over considerable adjacent territory, and though the weeds in the field be kept down, the land will bear a vexatious crop the subsequent season, having been seeded from the fence corners. Some seeds of weeds are conveyed long distances by the wind, they being provided with light, gauzy wings to act as sails. Other seeds are so light as to float in an atmosphere almost still. Heavy seeds are borne surprising distances by wind storms; and some are carried by birds. I have seen sheaves wet by rain, fence rails, &c., blown thirty yards by wind storms. A current of sufficient force to do this will carry almost any weed seed one hundred yards. It is apparent that the only way to avoid this spreading of obnoxious seeds, to grow into future annoyances, is to cut the weeds before the seeds have matured. As the most fruitful weed gardens are the fence corners, they should have at least one visit from a man with a scythe at this season.

Mowing fence corners is decidedly unpleasant work, and for this very reason it is often neglected. But when we consider the greater disagreeable work entailed by this neglect, the fact that mowing fence corners is unpleasant is no valid excuse for the neglect of the work. The trouble is that this mowing must be done with a scythe and this is a day of mowers. I knew of one man to tear down a fence, mow over the ground which it had occupied with his two-horse mower and then build the fence up again; but I cannot recommend this procedure unless the fence needs re-setting. I suspect that a good many of us have formed our dislike for this work because when we were boys we were put to it with a very old, dull scythe. It is no economy to use a poor scythe for this work. Get a good scythe, rather short, broad and heavy, and if you are careful about the stakes you will not injure it and will do the work with ease and decency.

The only way to get rid of this work is to get rid of the weeds or of the corners. To get rid of the weeds, seed the corners down to grass. Then you must be careful to keep the weeds cut out, for the first year the catch of grass will be only partial, and it will not become complete so long as you allow the weeds to mature their seeds;

in fact, the weeds will finally crowd out the grass. And even after the grass fully covers the ground it is well to mow it as the seed is passing out of the dough state, as this apparently insures a better seeding of the ground and admits the sun and air to the fence, retarding its rotting. The way to get rid of the corners is to build some fence other than the Virginia rail. A very good fence is made by halving poles and nailing them to posts set in the ground. It is the same as a board fence, only the poles are used in place of boards. In a timbered region it is generally cheaper than a board fence, and it makes no corners. There will be a narrow strip of "non-cultivable" land along, of course, but this is easily mown. Another advantage of it and board fence is that they occupy much less land than a Virginia rail fence. A rail fence makes non-cultivable a strip of land twelve feet wide. Thence a fence 215 rods long occupies an acre. After trying osage orange hedge fence for almost twenty years, I must condemn it—not because it is not good—but because wire is better. Hedge, among other objectionable things, occupies fully as much ground as a Virginia rail fence, and while it is not so favorable to weeds, it makes a very desirable harbor for pests. I believe the best fence to be a wire one. It occupies but little ground, makes no corners and is strong and durable.

There is no more profitable work upon the farm than keeping fence corners free of weeds and briars. Not only do we prevent the befouling of adjacent lands, but we preserve the fence much longer. Weeds, &c., keep the fence damp and hasten its rotting. I believe an ordinary fence will last one-half longer if the weeds are kept cut away from it than if they are allowed to grow undisturbed. The cost of maintaining fences is so great that increasing their durability in any way is worthy of our attention, and when it is by keeping the corner clear of weeds, it is certainly worthy of our practice.

Quincy, Ill. JOHN M. STAHL.

Thoughts come into our minds by avenues which we never left open, and thoughts go out of our minds through avenues which we never voluntarily open.

For the Maryland Farmer.

Mulching and Shading.

To prevent the escape of moisture from the soil is a prime consideration for every farmer. From June to September the dry weather is more to be feared than the wet, and it is important for us, if we would have good crops, to understand how, in the absence of copious rains, we may still keep moisture enough in the soil to supply their needs. Cultivation is one means. By it evaporation is checked to a large extent and the moisture that would otherwise pass off into the atmosphere is detained when it is needed. It is to do more than kill weeds that we cultivate; it is to assist in keeping in store in the soil an element on which plant-growth depends.

But mulching is a still better method of accomplishing these results and more. In the mulch we have also a manure. Turn over a stone on any clay or lower soil, and you will almost always find it moist beneath. Stones, therefore, are a mulch, but we do not think this fact sufficient to warrant their being left in the fields from year to year—and they are certainly not manures. Mulches check evaporation, and whatever lies upon the ground does this, to a greater or less extent, and thus performs the office of a mulch. Some crops, as potatoes, corn, tomatoes, etc., are good mulches, because they shade the soil, after attaining a certain growth. Evaporation is slight in the shade, and to create a shade is to prevent evaporation within its circumference.

There are other close-growing and "shading" crops that do not act so well as mulches. They conduct the moisture off through roots and leaves and prevent evaporation, it is true, but by running the water from the soil in another way. Such are clover, rye, oats, grass, etc. Hence, we see that under certain conditions shading is mulching.

In its application to fruits, mulching possesses its greatest benefit, perhaps.

Strawberries properly mulched with swamp hay or grass, or any convenient material, will stand quite severe dry weather and remain fresh and productive. Raspberries and currants produce much finer fruit if mulched, and it helps, at the same time, to keep back the weeds. Young orchards are certainly benefitted by a

heavy mulch around the base, and were it oftener applied fewer dead trees would be seen in our young orchards. Before frost closes up the soil, the mulch must be removed lest it furnish a wresting place for mice.

The value, then, of mulching cannot be overestimated. It should be practiced more extensively; it would save where now there is loss. Its beneficial effects are recognized by all experienced fruit culturists and its practice commanded.

AGRICOLA.

Deer Creek Farmer's Club.

DISCUSSING IMMIGRATION—MANUFACTORIES NEEDED IN HARFORD.

The Deer Creek Farmers' Club met at the residence of Mr. Wm. Webster, near Churchville, Saturday, June 27th.

The question selected by Mr. Webster for discussion was as follows:

"Would it not greatly advance the interests of our county and State to offer inducements to foreign immigrants and citizens of sister States to settle amongst us?"

Mr. Wm. Webster said the question should be considered without prejudice. There is, no doubt, a fear in the minds of some that the presence of a large number of foreign immigrants might in some degree break up our long-established and cherished habits and social customs, but we should look at it in a practical, business like way. Mr. Webster called the attention of the club to the tract of land called "The Forest," situated near Churchville. It contains about 4,000 acres. Twenty-five years ago, with the exception of seven farms, it was a wood-cutting, belonging to the Harford Furnace Company. After the wood had been nearly all cut off the manager of the company, Mr. Richard Green, instead of keeping the land for a second growth of timber, offered it to settlers at from \$5 to \$10 an acre, with ten years in which to pay for it. It was covered with forest and stone, and did not pay over \$100 in taxes. The settlers were Germans and Irish; chiefly the former. They built houses, fenced the land, cleared it up, planted crops and went on, year by year, until they are to-day as prosperous

as any people in the county. Some of the land could not be bought for \$100 an acre, and they pay \$1,200 a year in taxes. There are about forty farmers, who are the most orderly community we have, for in twenty-five years they have had but one law-suit.

It would be good policy to divide our farms and sell small parcels to immigrants of this class. The lands in Lancaster and Chester counties, Pa., are no better than ours, nor are their facilities much greater, yet they sell for more, and the reason is they are divided into smaller parcels. A man can afford to pay a larger price per acre for a small farm than for a large one. Mr. Webster thought the Legislature should send an agent to Europe to point out the advantages of Maryland and induce thrifty, industrious immigrants to come here.

R. Harris Archer thought it would be a good thing if some inducements could be offered to industrious immigrants to settle in Maryland.

J. Edwin Webster said he followed Mr. Webster's argument until he said there were no law-suits in the Forest; then he dropped it, being a lawyer himself.

E. P. Moore's said Harford is well supplied with the class of immigrants who usually come over to this country, but it would be well if we could induce those with a little money to come here and settle. An agent might induce too many of the class we don't want to come.

H. Spalding said he had found that foreigners in some things make as good laborers as native-born.

John Moores thought Harford abundantly supplied with labor of all kinds. We have large bodies of cheap land, but we cannot compete with Western land at \$1 an acre. If we could induce some live manufacturers to start business in Harford county it would bring people here. Look at the item of shoes alone. Harford, with her 30,000 population, buys annually at least \$150,000 worth of shoes. These might as well be made here as in Lynn. The leather is made in Maryland and Massachusetts men come here to buy it. You can't get a plow made in Harford county. We send to Michigan for our wagons while our own wheelwrights are starving. All our farm implements are made somewhere else and yet we have the best and cheap-

est wood on earth. As for sending an agent to Europe, it would be a good, soft place for some good-for-nothing fellow. We should induce manufacturers to come here and aid them when they come.

Wm. Munnikhuysen also thought we should offer inducements to manufacturers to come here. Almost any kind of a manufactory would bring the same kind of people of which Mr. Webster spoke.

Wm. F. Hays thought that the money farmers pay for agricultural implements ought to be kept here.

James Lee said he had no difficulty in getting reliable help, but no doubt immigrants of the right kind would increase the value of our lands.

E. M. Allen said he did not know why we wanted immigration as labor is cheap and less is required since we have so many labor saving implements. He did not know what inducement we could offer as lands are higher here than in other parts of the country.

Geo. J. Finney said it depended very much on the kind of immigrants we have, whether it would be of much advantage to us as a people or a county to invite them to come.

S. M. Lee thought the wealth of a country is often in proportion to the number of its inhabitants. He was satisfied Harford has not one-half the population it might support but how to get it is the question. A great many of our land holders and the county would be benefitted by allowing some of their more broken lands to go into other hands.

Geo. E. Silver said that to enhance the value of our lands we must bring in capital and show to those who have money that here they can find a good investment for it. We have valuable slate lands not opened and mines opened and not fully developed. If capital came to develop our resources labor would follow. The Susquehanna paper mill property, which a few years ago paid scarcely a dollar in taxation, now pays \$1,200 and gives employment to many laborers, who spend their money here, from \$30,000 to \$40,000 being disbursed annually in wages. If we want to settle our waste places we must induce the laboring class to come here and give them a helping hand. Farm labor is abundant but the question of house help is more difficult of solution. That, how-

ever, will regulate itself in time, and in a few years, he thought, both employers and laborers will be in a better condition.

R. John Rogers also thought we have enough farm labor. We are, he said, in a bad condition in regard to manufactures. All our farming implements are made abroad, causing a heavy drain of money from the county, all of it being carried away, except the commissions to agents. This great amount of money taken out of circulation must impoverish a county. It would be a good thing if we could induce capitalists to come here and start almost any kind of a manufactory. It would pay Harford county to make them a present of land on which to build their shops and exempt them from taxation.

Mr. Silver said he knew of places in Missouri where land and money are offered to persons who will start manufactories.

Wm. S. Webster thought it of no use to bring immigrants here unless we had some thing for them to do. If manufactories were started the hands to work them would come.—*Ægis and Intelligencer*.

Good Coffee—How to Make it.

Coffee is, with good reason, a favorite morning beverage, and, happily, there are but few that cannot take it, for it is a valuable addition to the diet. It is nutritious and acts on most persons as a gentle stimulant, imparting energy in action, and producing a feeling of restfulness after a great fatigue. It also prevents waste of tissue, and enables people to undergo great and protracted labor upon insufficient food. This has been tested where endurance has been tried to its uttermost, in Arctic expeditions; in long and toilsome army marches; and in caravans which plunged into the mysterious dangers of the trackless deserts, and which were sustained by coffee through every exposure and deprivation of other food. Let the coffee urn, therefore, send up its fragrant steam as an invocation to Hygeia. It is pretty and pleasant, if you can afford it, to make the coffee at table, either in a French biggin or "a Vienna coffee pot," over an alcohol lamp. But it is good enough for mortals, brought smoking hot from the kitchen fire. A good and economical way of making coffee is to put the proper amount for the family, a heaping tablespoonful for each cup, into the

coffeepot, pouring over it an equal number of cups of cold water and letting it stand over night. In the morning bring it to the boiling point before serving. Made in this manner, it needs neither eggs nor other "settling" to make it clear. Egg however, makes it richer. Never be pound foolish and get anything but the best coffee. Either Java or Mocha—or the two mixed, "alf and alf." By all means have it, if possible, freshly browned and ground, and you will get a finer flavor.—Marian S. Devereux, in *Good Housekeeping*.

For the Maryland Farmer.

Growing Vegetables for Market.

A friend on the Eastern Shore who read my article in the July number of the MARYLAND FARMER writes: "Our people have lost faith in trucking. Many of them have tried vegetable growing and have found that it will not pay." All of which I know to be strictly true. And yet there are in many parts of the country growers of vegetables not so favorably situated as the Eastern Shore people are who are making it pay well. Now, with your permission, I will endeavor to show why "trucking" has not paid many who have attempted it on the Eastern Shore.

The first and principal reason is a want of knowledge of the business. Because a man is a good practical farmer it by no means follows that he is a good market gardener. The two branches of business are entirely distinct and require a very different training. Not one farmer in a thousand can succeed at market gardening who attempts it on a large scale in the start any more than the ordinary city merchant will succeed in the cultivation of a large farm without any previous experience. As a rule, no man can succeed in any business in which he has had no previous training. In the second place, in addition to a lack of experience in cultivating vegetables, those who have tried trucking on the Eastern Shore and failed have been ignorant of the requirements of the different city markets. Many kinds of produce put into proper shape for the Baltimore market would not sell at all in that shape in Philadelphia or New York, and vice versa. So, also, articles which are in active demand in one city are hardly ever called for in another owing to certain

nationalities prevailing. For instance, Spring-sown flat turnips put into the Philadelphia market June 1st will usually bring at wholesale \$3.50 per barrel, while the same turnips sent to Baltimore would hardly sell at all.

Last Summer while traveling along the country road near the town of Centreville in Queen Anne's county the road crossed a clear-running stream or branch. Whether by accident or design, the shallow waters of this branch have become well set with water cress, which was growing luxuriantly and seemed to be entirely undisturbed. Seeing an old negro man working near, I asked him if they never gathered the cress. "Sometimes, boss, when greens is scarce we biles some of it." Now the volunteer produce of that branch cut when it first appears in the Spring and sent to New York would bring at least \$20 for an ordinary sixty-quart strawberry crate full, and yet, instead of increasing its culture artificially in this stream, which produces such a good crop spontaneously, the people are so ignorant of the value of water cress as to *boil it!* As water cress is not a native of this country, I suppose that in years gone by the Centreville branch was stocked by some one who retained an Englishman's love for this 'fine salad plant. But if the owner of this cress were to ship it to Baltimore the chances are that he would not sell it at all except to a few restaurants where it is called for by foreigners.

It is a very common delusion on the Eastern Shore to suppose that those who have stalls and sell their produce in the markets at retail are the ones who make the most money with vegetables. While it is undoubtedly the fact that many of these do succeed, by close economy and hard work, in making money, the great majority of them after leading a mere dog's life only make a poor living. The man who retails his produce in the market from his wagon or stall is essentially a retailer, and his operations are necessarily limited. He must spend at least three days every week away from his work at home, to sell an amount of produce which the grower who ships his vegetables and sells at wholesale would get off in an hour. All the loss for stale and spoiled vegetables falls on him, while the wholesale shipper puts this off on the dealer. The risk in handling vegetables in market is very great and the

margin between the wholesale and retail price is necessarily large, but I am satisfied that the wholesale shipper of produce who sells through a competent and honest salesman has his fair share of the profit in most transactions. Twenty years ago it was a difficult matter to get anything like a fair price for vegetables shipped here from the Eastern Shore, because there were few or no *produce* commission houses, and the *grain* commission men did not want to be bothered with consignments of truck, and so took little pains to get fair prices. Now things are changed. The great and constantly increasing trade in produce from the Eastern Shore counties has had the natural effect of turning the attention of dealers to it and now there are plenty of produce commission men who are prepared to handle, promptly and honestly large shipments of produce. If growers produce first-class vegetables, pack them honestly and in a style suited to the demands of the market, and get them in with the earliest from their section, good prices will usually be obtained. But if on the other hand they ship poorly grown vegetables, badly culled, badly packed and behind the season, they will conclude that trucking on the Eastern Shore will not pay. The cities all around are constantly growing, and the means of rapid transfer northward renders it easy to handle an amount of produce that only a few years ago would have glutted the market. In many sections of the Eastern Shore no business could be made more profitable than the *intelligent* culture of vegetables for market.

W. F. MASSEY.

P. S. As I write, a street "Arab" passes crying "New potatoes 'levy' a peck." I look out the window and see his wagon filled with potatoes about the size of walnuts, which he is hawking around for 50 cents a bushel. The man who shipped them probably thinks "trucking don't pay." And yet good potatoes are bringing good prices.

Save when you are young, to spend when old.

KNOW THYSELF by reading the "Science of Life," the best medical work ever published, for young and middle-aged men.

New Postal Rates.

POINTS CONCERNING THE NEW LAW WHICH WENT INTO EFFECT JULY 1.

Postmaster Huidekope, of Philadelphia, who has given great attention to the subject, has prepared the following condensation of the new postal laws, which went into effect July 1.

First.—Rates of postage on second class matter will be 1 cent per pound or fraction thereof, including newspapers for Canada, with the exceptions noted below.

Second.—Publications of the second class other than weekly papers published where there is a letter-carrier office must be paid in postage stamps, affixed at the rate of 1 cent for each paper; or on each periodical not exceeding two ounces in weight; or 2 cents on each periodical if weighing over two ounces, if they are to be delivered by the carrier in the city of publication. If they are to be delivered through the lock-boxes or through the general delivery, they can be mailed at pound rates. Postage on sample copies of weekly papers for delivery by carriers in district where published must be paid by postage stamps attached.

Third.—Each piece of second-class matter offered for mailing must be properly inclosed in a wrapper clearly addressed, or all pieces of mail matter for one postoffice may be securely inclosed in one wrapper, addressed to postmaster; provided each piece inclosed is properly addressed.

Fourth.—Any article or item in any newspaper or other publication may be marked for observation, except by written or printed words, without increase of postage.

Fifth.—Second-class matter can have no inclosure except in the form of a regular supplement, or bills, receipts and orders for subscription; provided, that such bills, receipts and orders shall be in such form as to convey no other information than the name, location and subscription price of the publication or publications to which they refer.

Sixth.—Second-class matter cannot be inclosed in envelopes, but must be wrapped exposed at both ends, so that the contents can be readily examined.

Seventh.—On the wrapper of second-class matter no printing will be allowed,

beyond the name and address of the publisher or news agent, and name of publication, except a request to the postmaster to notify in case the paper is not taken out or delivered, or request to return the same or to deliver the same to some other person, if not called for, or notice when subscription ends.

Eighth.—Third-class and second-class matter must be put up and delivered at the postoffice in separate packages.

Ninth.—Sample copy of second-class publication should be marked on wrapper "Sample Copy," to be delivered in city of publication, postage one cent on each newspaper, without regard to weight or frequency of issue. Postage on periodicals, other than newspapers, is one cent if not exceeding two ounces in weight, and two cents if exceeding two ounces in weight. News agents cannot send sample copies at pound rates.

Tenth.—As many persons refuse to take from the postoffice papers which are sent to them as sample copies, if not so marked, for fear of obligating themselves under laws of most States, to pay for a year's subscription, the great advantage to publishers in marking on the wrappers of all sample copies the words "Sample Copy" is apparent.

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Thirteenth.—Letters, merchandise sealed against inspection, and other first-class matter will pass through the mail at 2 cents for each ounce or fraction thereof, without the package being limited to four pounds

in weight, as in the case of third and fourth-class matter.

Fourteenth.—Merchandise not sealed and otherwise mailable can pass through the mail at 1 cent for each ounce or fraction thereof.

Fifteenth.—Manuscript by itself is first-class matter. Proofs and corrected proofs are third class matter, and may be accompanied by the original written manuscript.

Experimental Farms.

The following from the *Times-Democrat* is a fact generally overlooked by the superficial and thoughtless. We copy it for the sake of adding emphasis to the statement that however costly experiments may be they form the only means of arriving at general truths which will benefit the agriculturist. That the experimental farm has proved profitable is nothing against the conduct of the farm, and is nothing materially in its favor. It would be an injury if it strengthened the idea entertained by some that all experiments should prove successful and profitable. The great object of experimental stations should be the benefit of the public, regardless of all profit in a money-making sense:

"Prof. Sanborn claims to have made a profit of \$1,280 on his college farm last season, whereupon the good-natured and generous editor of the *Philadelphia Weekly Press* says it is a disgrace to the State of Missouri that this farm is put to such an unprofitable use as making money. These remarks may look odd to many of our hard-working readers, but we strongly suspect this gentleman is right. These experimental farms are not intended as money-making establishments, but are purely for experiment and illustration. As our friend pithily puts it: 'Experiments are in their nature costly. One function of experimental farms is to make such tests as an ordinary farmer cannot afford or has not the facilities to prosecute. The aim and purpose of such a farm is entirely different from the purpose of ordinary farms. If a farmer's acres do not pay, they are not properly managed. If an experimental farm does not pay, it is man-

aged still worse.' The words will certainly bring comfort to the hearts of many of the managers of experimental farms all over country, and we fear they will not draw the distinction that the distinguished editor neglected to bring out, which is that somebody, the student for instance, should secure a profit from the experimental farm's teachings. All of them not even pay that kind of a profit"

American Exposition.

On our return from the New Orleans Exposition we gave some description of it in the *MARYLAND FARMER* and suggested the advisability of continuing it for another Winter. We are glad to see the movement which is now put forward to carry out this plan by those who have had the Exposition in their keeping. The past Exposition was unfortunate in many respects, and financially it was undoubtedly a disastrous enterprise. Yet the amount of good resulting from it compensated fully for all the expenditure of money. If it should now be continued we believe it would be of greater benefit than before and prove a success both as an Exposition and as a financial enterprise. We shall continue to hope that the proposed Exposition shall be happily carried forward, and we place the following extracts in reference to it in our columns with much pleasure:

AMERICAN EXPOSITION.—APPLICATIONS BEING MADE DAILY FOR MORE SPACE. EXTRACTS FROM A LETTER FROM DIRECTOR GENERAL BUCK.

The American Exposition continues to boom. Mr. S. B. McConnico, president of the Board of Management, is in daily receipt of letters of inquiry for space, announcements of intended exhibits, etc. Among those received Tuesday was a letter from Mr. Chas. B. Turrill, in charge of the exhibit of the Southern Pacific, asking for 50,000 feet of space, and declaring that the Southern Pacific would assuredly make a more varied and extensive display than last winter.

The consul for San Domingo called yesterday upon Mr. McConnico and gave

assurances that his republic would make a large and interesting display. Indeed an exhibit from San Domingo was prepared for the last Exposition and shipped to New York, too late, however, to obtain space. It has been lying boxed in the Custom House in New York ever since. It will be largely added to and sent on to the American Exposition.

The consul has also been in correspondence with a number of persons in Venezuela, and has received reliable advices that the government of that country was preparing to be well represented.

The letter below was received from Director General S. H. Buck :

JULY 4, 1885.

Mr. S. B. McConnico, New Orleans, La.:

My Dear Sir—You are quite familiar with the details of my work, but you will never know the energy and diplomacy that were necessary to wipe out the prejudice against the old Exposition, before starting the new. The task is done. We have a unanimous press in our favor; the departments of the government, which we will require to use, are with us; the ministers of the Spanish American countries are enlisted, both representatives of those governments here, and our ministers there. This is the foundation of our foreign policy.

THE MACHINERY EXHIBIT. IT WILL BE LARGER AT THE COMING EXPOSITION THAN BEFORE.

A reporter of the *Times-Democrat* waited upon Mr. S. H. Gilman, chief consulting engineer of North, South and Central American Exposition, and gained from him the following information as to the future prospects of the exhibit in the machinery department of the Exposition:

In answer to your inquiry about the conditions of the prospect for the machinery department of the American Exposition, I beg leave to report that one contract has been closed for the use of a 300 horse-power steam engine now on the foundations. Two exhibitors that had each one 125 horse-power engine here now offer us each a 400 horse-power. One that had one 100 horse-power now offers us 600 horse-power; and another a 400; and another a 500 horse-power. The terms so far are better than we could make last year. I have no doubt but that we shall have offers of four times the power that

we want. Upwards of 100 steam engines were sold last season. As to other exhibits of machinery, the present prospect is far in advance of last year at this date. One exhibitor who had a space of 2000 square feet last season now wants 15,744 square feet for textile machines; another who had 4500 square feet now wants 9000 feet; another who had 900 feet now wants 7500 feet; another 9000 feet wants now 12,900 feet. I have no doubt whatever but what well-directed efforts will make the machinery department doubly as attractive as last season's. Quite a number of the finest exhibits are left standing for next season, while a large number of those who have left want to return to a different and larger space. I think of the entire Main Building fully one-third have left platforms and stands intact, with the intention of occupying them next season themselves.

All are now waiting for announcement of the American Exposition officers, rules and regulations before making their definite plans and applications.

The Farm.

On a large farm it is rarely necessary or best to confine fowls in summer. If given free range they will do much good in destroying insects and they can do little or no injury.

One of the chief needs for stone fruits is potash in the soil. This is especially true of peaches, which are supposed to do better on sandy soils, where potash is usually deficient. Liberal dressings with wood ashes or muriate of potash are a preventive of, if not a remedy for, the yellows.

One or two quarts of meal night and morning will do cows a world of good. While the grass is green and succulent the meal had better be given dry. When it becomes more nutritious make the meal into thin slop to encourage a larger milk product.

It is quite common, when a farmer keeps three, four or more cows, that the best milker brings more net profit than all the others, and often what is made from her goes to defray losses on the others. How much is such a cow worth as compared with the inferior animals?

A very good feed either for green forage

or grain is made by sowing oats and peas together. Where field peas are sown alone the vines get down and become mouldy. A few oats sown at the same time give them needed support, and what oats are grown are so much clear gain. Oats and peas cut green make an excellent ensilaging crop.

Young shoots of barley are particularly rich and succulent. They are greedily eaten by cows, and it is a good plan to sow a patch near the barn to be cut for soiling purposes. In lieu of this, barley from the field may be cut for this use. For forage barley ought to be sown much more thickly than is advisable for growing grain. At least three bushels per acre may be sown with advantage. For a grain crop two bushels is usually enough per acre.

For the Maryland Farmer.

Tree Peddlers.

It is said that a farmer in the southern portion of this State, allured by the picture-book of a tree peddler, planted a large orchard to Russian apples, and now he wishes that he had planted Baldwins and that he had never seen that tree peddler. This case, which is only one of many of a similar character, proves the advantage of being guarded and not to be easily influenced by any glib talker, who makes his living by imposing upon all that he can catch in his net. It should not be understood that all tree peddlers are rascals, but it is true that many of them are decidedly unprincipled and should be avoided. Where there is a want of principle the temptation overcomes all sense of justice, and because some years must pass before the true character of a tree can be determined, the vendor knows that he can escape any danger that might threaten him could his treachery be at once determined.

But this all comes from dealing with a class of traveling agents who at the time never expect to pass through that portion of the country in the same business the second time. The result always proves the advantage gained by patronizing home industries. There is no very extensive section of the country that is without its nursery of fine trees and where the proprietor can be reached by due process of law in case he practices any imposition in putting out

trees false to name, etc. For this reason he should be patronized. Then there is another reason why a home nursery should be patronized, and that is because the stock in trade is, so to speak, acclimated and will do much better than trees that are transported long distances and were propagated in a different soil from that in which they are to grow. There are reliable nurseries in Maryland and other States, and if farmers will allow themselves to be duped by tree peddlers, they ought not to complain.

WILLIAM H. YEOMANS.

Columbia, Conn.

Wicomico County Farmers.

A meeting of the farmers of Wicomico county was held on Monday afternoon, July 13, to take steps towards forming a permanent organization. The meeting was called to order by Thomas Perry. Lemuel Malone was elected chairman, and V. S. Gordy, secretary. A committee of six from each district was appointed to visit farmers and urge them to come out on the third Tuesday in August, when a permanent organization will be effected similar to that of the Deer Creek Farmer Club. The following subjects were chosen to be debated at the next meeting: "Hay and Grass," "Fruit Culture," "Use of Fertilizers," "Best Way to Plant Wheat." It is proposed to hold a meeting every three months.

FILL THE SILOS LEISURELY.—Director Sturtevant, of the New York Experiment Station, has filled a silo the two past years by two different methods. The first year, 1883, the material was put in as rapidly as practicable, weighted immediately, and kept closed until opened for use. Last year the corn and sorghum were cut and placed in the silo during three consecutive days, August 18, 19 and 20. The plank and weights were then put on, remaining undisturbed one month, when the silo was opened to receive a fresh lot of sorghum and again covered and weighted. The ensilage was examined in June last and found fully equal in quality with that stored the year previous, when the filling was done as rapidly as possible.

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Gov. LLOYD has made appointments as follows: Col. Edward Lloyd, of Talbot county, and Frank Brown, of Carroll, delegates to the National Cattle Growers' Association of America, which meets at Chicago November 17. Edward B. Emory, of Queen Anne's county, and T. Alex. Seth, of Baltimore county, were appointed alternates.

Ensilage.

Many, particularly small farmers, who would willingly try the new system of preserving green fodder, are, no doubt, deterred from doing so by the first cost of the silo. Such will be interested in some experiments made by Mr. G. W. Gray, of Castle Gary, Somersetshire, which seem to prove that grass or any green food may be preserved for future use without either making into hay or putting it into close silos. Mr. Gray writes: "I have this year made three small silos or stacks of green grass above ground with great success. The first was made of the roadside and bank trimmings of a large farm, and consisted of nettles, docks and all the other weeds usually found in such places. The whole was carted together and put into a stack twelve feet square, four planks were placed on the outside edges of the top and stones thrown on the top until they were about two feet thick. This completed the work. When the mornings became cold a portion of the silage was given every morning to some fattening cattle, and, with the exception of the outsides, which were mouldy, every particle has been eaten and enjoyed by the cattle. My second silo consisted of stemmings of coarse grass, rushes and sedge and grass from an orchard which it was inconvenient to pasture. This was treated in the same way as the first and is now being eaten and enjoyed every morning by store cattle. My third and last silo was made of about six acres of meadow aftergrass, simply carted together in the same way as a manure heap, the carts being run on to the heap with each successive load and the whole covered with road scrapings till nearly two feet thick. It is not quite properly made, but as a first attempt, and made by an ordinary laboring man without any supervision, is very creditable. The fault in the making will

be apparent to any visitor, namely, that the sides were not trodden enough. My man said to me that after it had been open a little 'it did smell beautiful.' There is no accounting for taste, but the cattle seem to think the same.—*Farmers' Gazette (Dublin.)*

THE DAIRY.

About Butter.

In making butter, there is far more danger to be apprehended in over working, than in not working enough, and there is also a danger to be avoided, that of beating, threshing, and grinding the cream under the impression that such a procedure is good churning. Working over the butter, actually begins when the milk is put into pans or cans to get a separation of the fats from the fluid portion of the milk, and working is only the last operation to get a little more moisture out of the butter. The plan of butter making is to get the fats separate from the balance of the different elements that compose milk, and each part of the work should be in this direction. To get butter that readily parts with the buttermilk, the idea of granular butter must be paramount. Cream that has been overheated, chilled, beaten into foamy froth in churning or worked until it is salve in expelling the buttermilk, each and all have more or less been subjected to the "breaking down" process that has forced the globules out of shape bursted, or melted them together so that the independence of each separate globule has been overcome, and the butter is waxy, or grainless. To this end a perfect churn has about as much to do in making good butter, as the creamery, or the process in general. One reason why the old dish churn is so popular, is because it is usually a home made affair, and another is that it rarely ever grinds the cream in churning. But its chief fault lies in this, that as the cream thickens, the labor in-

creases, a large per cent of cream sticks to the dasher, lid, and sides of the churn, and not being churned as fast as that in the center of the churn, is likely to go off in the buttermilk. With the revolving churns, the cream is churned in more nearly a fluid state, and as it is the cream falling upon itself that produces the agitation, all the cream must be churned alike with no friction to break, or dissolve the grains of butter.

As water is a better absorbant of the cheesy matter, and the sugar of butter, than any power which can be brought to bear to expell them, it follows that rinsing out the half gathered butter in slightly salt, cold water is far preferable, as then there is no danger of rupturing these little balls of butter, and when at last pressure is brought to bear sufficient to expell the surplus moisture, the operation of churning has been one of perfection, in regard to making granular butter, and an article free from buttermilk.

Sweet, Fresh Butter.

The tendency of the consumer in relation to his table butter, is towards a sweet, fresh butter, and to secure it he does not buy butter that has been made at least six months. The sweet, fresh butter of the market is sweet and fresh because recently made, and not a result of being packed in box or crock, and stored away in a cellar. Butter is peculiar in this, that no process of making, or packing it to be eaten months hence, can insure that it will open with unimpaired flavor. The flavor, and fine rosy character of butter are part and parcel of it before packing, and are never acquired afterwards. This is why that the demand for new butter goes apace. But few have the skill or knowledge how to make, and pack a long keeping butter, and since the advent of the creamery, and the all-the-year butter factory; there is far less need of a long keeping article. The

newly made fine butter is the article that gets the top of the market, not "old tubs" long packed.

This is the idea that the dairyman should go by. Place the butter every week or even oftener, in the market; get it to the consumer as quickly as possible. The dairyman now has the factory men, and the oleomargarine manufacturers to fight, and compete with, and to be successful he must be the early bird—in the markets—and with sweet, fresh butter, pure and free from buttermilk, tempt his customers with an article so fine, that competition is impossible. It takes skill and study to do this—but with the help of a dainty attractive, little butter package that actually makes the butter yet more tempting. the fine butter maker will make progress even if the times are hard and competition is active, and even "wicked."

Cold Setting.

The reason why cold produces a better separation of cream from the milk is from the fact that cold if conducted as directly as possible to the milk effects the cheesy part of the milk, more and quicker than it does the fats, and contracts it, which means greater gravity, and so being heavier, falls to a lower level. This tends to force the cream to the surface. Fats are acted upon very slowly by cold, and this is why cream is raised more perfectly in a cold bath than by the old open pan process. By this process the cream only rises as the temperature falls, and unless the night, or day be very cool, only a thin cream rises, for the cheesy matter only being partially cooled, does not have its gravity changed enough to force the cream to the surface. The plan of the cans for deep setting is to make them narrow in proportion to their depth, so that the cold imparted, shall almost instantly find its way to the center of the milk. While the depth of the milk in a cold setting-can

may be from 12 to 20 inches; its width should not be to exceed eight inches. To obtain this quick cooling result, cans for cold setting are made of all shapes, but not of all widths, for the "thinner" the can, the more cooling surface, and this is what is the chief essential. In deep sitting there is many theories in regard to the covering of the can, whether it shall be close, or open; or ventilated while the milk is cooling, &c. The usual idea is that milk contains animal odor, but in the opinion of the FARMER the heat in milk when drawn, is not different from the heat from a stove. Milk may be flavored by improper food, but that milk from a healthy, well fed cow is loaded with "animal odor," looks curious, at least. The submerged cans certainly make very fine butter claimed to be superior to that of open pans, which would be impossible if milk had animal odor. So far as this relates to good butter all cans can be ventilated if the butter maker wishes, and we do think that if all our friends would get some of the really inexpensive dairy apparatus that is now offered, and learn to use it, and succeed—a not different task, a most remarkable gain would be soon apparent in the butter made in the region reached by the MARYLAND FARMER.

Dairy Butter vs. Oleomargarine.

One of the subjects of greatest interest to the farmer at the present time is the question of imitation butter, generally called by the name "oleomargarine," although composed of different materials or different proportions of the same materials. The legal standing of oleomargarine and the actual character of the compound are of the greatest moment to all whose interests are jeopardized by its manufacture. Farmers should understand distinctly with what they will be obliged to contend and should rather give the best features to this new industry than underestimate it. It

will not be well to shut one's eyes to its merits and strive by denunciations to destroy its sale. They should look the matter squarely in the face and resolve to meet it, just as it is, and vanquish it if possible. It is to this end we propose to give a few extracts from the recent decision of the highest court of appeals in the State of New York as to the unconstitutionality of the law prohibiting the manufacture and sale of oleomargarine, all the judges concurring, together with some of the chemical testimony in the case, with our own comments:

"It was proved by distinguished chemists that oleomargarine was composed of the same elements as dairy butter. That the only difference between them was that it contained a smaller proportion of a fatty substance known as butyryne. That this butyryne exists in dairy butter only in a small proportion—from three to six per cent. That it exists in no other substance than butter made from milk, and is introduced into oleomargarine butter by adding to the oleomargarine stock some milk, cream or butter, and churning, and when this is done it has all the elements of natural butter, but there must always be a smaller percentage of butyryne in the manufactured product than in butter made from milk. The only effect of the butyryne is to give flavor to the butter, and has nothing to do with the wholesomeness. That the oleaginous substances in the oleomargarine are substantially identical with those produced from milk or cream. Professor Chandler testified that the only difference between the two articles was that dairy butter had more butyryne. That oleomargarine contained not over one per cent. of that substance, while dairy butter might contain four or five per cent.; and that if four or five per cent. of butyryne were added to the oleomargarine, there would be no difference; it would be butter; irrespective of the sources, they would be the same substances. According to the testimony of Professor Morton, whose statement was not controverted or questioned, oleomargarine, so far from being an article devised for purposes of deception in trade, was devised in 1872 or 1873 by an eminent French scientist who had been

employed by the French government to devise a substitute for butter."

The above is from the text of the judges' decision, showing the precise character of oleomargarine, and is well worthy of a permanent record. Testimony as to the wholesomeness of the article was also given, but on the acknowledgment being made by the district attorney, the testimony was dispensed with. Much has been said by the farming community as to the vile character of the materials used by the factories in producing this imitation butter. This trial has convinced the public that the factories are forced to use the best materials to be had, and that every part of the process must be with scrupulous cleanliness. Let us not be deceived in these points, for if the public find that we are fighting a man of straw of our own building, it will be the worse for us. Persons who want butter will not be satisfied with an almost tasteless substitute, provided dairymen will give an article which is really good in its flavor and of a quality which will keep its sweetness for a reasonable space of time.

The arguments were finally summed up by the judges in the following demonstration of the unconstitutional character of the law:

"If the argument of the respondents in support of the absolute power of the Legislature to prohibit one branch of industry for the purpose of protecting another with which it competes can be sustained, why could not the oleomargarine manufacturers, should they obtain sufficient power to influence or control the legislative councils, prohibit the manufacture or sale of dairy products? Would arguments then be found wanting to demonstrate the invalidity under the constitution of such an act? The principle is the same in both cases. The number engaged upon each side of controversy cannot influence the question here. Equal rights to all are what are intended to be secured by the establishment of constitutional limits to legislative power, and impartial tribunals to enforce them."

This decision will undoubtedly be the law of the land as to the legality of the manufacture and sale of oleomargarine. But farmers should still insist that it must be sold for what it is, and not as real butter; and laws regulating its sale in this respect are constitutional and, properly enforced, will make the distinction apparent to the public, so that all who buy will get whichever article they prefer.

It has been shown that good butter never brought any better prices in New York than during the active sale of oleomargarine, and also that since its prohibition there has been a great reduction in the general price in consequence of the amount of very poor to medium butter which has flooded the market. We would come to this final conclusion of this subject: Let oleomargarine be manufactured and sold to those who want it, under its own name. Let us not denounce it as unwholesome, dirty or unfit for use. But let us make our butter so good, so cleanly, so pure and sweet, and of such lasting quality, that there will be no comparison between the two as to richness of taste and delicious aroma. The butter will then command a market and a price that will only be affected favorably by any substance which may be invented as its substitute.

The Dalton (Ga.) *Citizen* says: "The young man who knows how to lay off corn and cotton rows and to regulate the distances of the same as to get the largest crops, is worth a cowpen full of nice kid-gloved, fancy-overcoated fellows, who may know how to lead the german or caper around at a fashionable waltz. Siding cotton, setting a plow just right and adjusting gears so that shoulders and backs of horses will never hurt, are worth a thousandfold more to the country than knowing how to pose in a parlor or to adjust the shade of a cravat to the complexion of the wearer."

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One Howe Sewing Machine, new, warranted first class, price \$50.00, will be given for 20 new subscribers to MARYLAND FARMER.

One Young America Corn and Cob Mill warranted first-class in every respect price \$40.00, will be given for 25 new subscribers to the MARYLAND FARMER one year.

4th of July Among Wheat Fields

— IN —

Kent County, Md.

Leaving Baltimore on the morning of the ever glorious 4th, we had a delightful trip across the Chesapeake Bay to Tolchester, where we found some 3000 men, women and children celebrating and enjoying the day. We took a leisurely stroll around the grounds, noticing the fine Hotel on the height, beautifully located, as also the Skating Rink, Dancing Pavilion, Elevated Railways, the Museum, Bathing Shore, etc., all in good order and patronized by the thousands constantly visiting this resort from the city:

Meeting Mr. Wm. P. Crosby, he invited us to visit his plantation which was near by; and as we do not often enjoy the opportunity of examining a farm of over a thousand acres all under a high state of cultivation we cheerfully accepted his pleasant invitation, took a seat in his conveyance and were soon on our way to his farm. We found ourself in the midst of his immense wheat fields which are surrounded by seven miles of Osage Orange hedge. And here we would say, as though in parenthesis, Mr. Crosby remarked, "No more hedge for me!" he said he was using now nothing but wire fence, and would be glad to have his seven miles of hedge converted into wire fencing. He was not yet through with his wheat harvest, but his crop was fully up to the average of former years. This fact rather astonished us after all which has been asserted as to Maryland not making half a crop this year. Timothy was also a good crop with him, part of which was already cut and housed, and since our return to Baltimore we have received from Mr. Crosby, a bunch of Timothy measuring 4 feet 9 inches in length. This hay crop led us to the barn, and we must say we do not know of another barn in Maryland which will conveniently hold 200 tons of hay, or

one which is more conveniently situated and arranged for the housing, feeding and watering of live stock. We would advise any farmer who is about to construct a barn to examine this one. Had we the space at our command we would give the details of construction, for we were greatly pleased with its perfect appointments. We were glad to look upon Mr. Crosby's fine stud of Norman horses. It is not the 2:40 horse the farmer needs; but something like these Norman horses, strong and healthy, that can do the work both on the farm and on the road. The stallion from which he is now breeding is a fine looking animal and he has a dozen or more valuable colts that will make just the horses needed on the farms of the Eastern Shore, and especially so as it costs no more to keep a good animal than it does to keep a poor one.

Leaving Mr. Crosby we met our friend Dr. A. P. Sharp, of Rock Hall, who gave us an invitation to visit his farm. Always desiring to view as much as possible of the surrounding country we gladly accepted the Doctor's invitation, and we made a circuit through the country of about 20 miles. The great wheat fields and peach orchards of Kent are well worth a trip to see, and we enjoyed every inch of our ride. It was growing dark when we reached the Doctor's mansion, which is a fine three story frame house; plainly but beautifully finished in hard pine, with two wide verandas fronting the Chesapeake Bay, which is about one hundred yards distant. Here we met the Doctor's family consisting of himself, his good lady and his son. His son had recently returned from quite extensive travels in Europe. Here we were very agreeably and hospitably entertained in this well known Rock Hall homestead.

Early the next morning we visited with the Doctor the various fields of the farm. The Doctor's theory of nitrogen and fertilizers generally is well known in this com-

munity, and also throughout a good part of this country, for his articles in the *Maryland Farmer* and *Country Gentleman* have been largely copied. We would say here that we found his practice to correspond with his theory. We examined large fields upon which we found fair crops of timothy growing, which the Doctor assured us had not had a pound of any kind of ammoniated phosphates as fertilizers for fifteen years. One of his fields of timothy had been cut and we examined it in his barn finding it apparently to contain its full proportion of life sustaining nourishments. In every field we visited we found some of the Doctor's experiments which he explained to us as we passed along. In the middle of one of his 20 acre fields we were surprised with what appeared a great curiosity. The timothy was in blossom and ready to be cut; but in the midst of this timothy we observed lines of very rich green clover, and upon further observation we found that these lines, which were plain and distinct to the eye, formed the letters and words "A P S., June 4th." Our curiosity as to the matter led to inquiries, and we learned from the Doctor that to try an experiment he had purchased a bag of finely-ground limestone and going into the centre of this field, he had sowed it by hand in the form of these letters to see if it would have any effect upon the grass, and this was the wonderful result: the grass forming these letters was double in quantity and of quite a different color. The following is the Doctor's explanation of the fine-ground limestone and its effects upon the grass: "This limestone was the magnesia limestone or dolomite, and the question was whether this active result was due to the magnesia or the carbonic acid contained in both the lime and magnesia. Carbonate of lime meeting any organic acid in the soil the carbonic acid would be displaced from the lime, which would lighten up the soil and

offer to the roots a full supply of carbon, which is the great plant food, as all know the great bulk of plant life in which sugar, starch, gum and woody matter is carbon; and none dispute but what all the carbon or charcoal is derived from carbonic acid through the force of plant life."

His two fields of corn, containing about thirty acres, were not as forward as some fields I saw in the county, as it was late planted on account of the wet Spring, but the corn was of good color, looked healthy and has every appearance of making a heavy crop. These fields also have been treated as were his fields of timothy and have had no ammoniated fertilizers for the space of fifteen years or more. The Doctor purchased this place about twenty years ago. At that time only a small portion of it was under cultivation and the soil was not considered susceptible of producing crops; but the Doctor has been clearing up and improving the farm until the crops have more than doubled and in some particulars nearly quadrupled the former ones. It is evident, also, that he is determined to continue to improve the land, for I observed in his barnyard fully 150 loads of manure ready to be used on his farm this Fall.

After a pleasant sojourn, we were forced to make our way back to the great city with its hot streets and long array of fiery red brick houses, so great a contrast to the green fields and delightful homes of the country! Our farmers' lives are cast in pleasant places. They should be a contented and happy people.

"Fearless" Threshing Machine.

We call the attention of farmers and threshermen to the advertisement of the celebrated "Fearless Threshing Machine, elsewhere in this paper. Unparalleled honors have been bestowed upon this machine, at fairs and exhibitions, State, National and International. And, as equally good and reliable evidences of superiority have been given, by the highest authority, times without number, persons desirous to purchase will do well to consult the manufacturer of the "FEARLESS," MINARD HARDER, Cobleskill, N. Y.

The Convention of Agricultural Colleges.

This convention met on the 8th of July in the large hall in the seed-house of the Agricultural Department. There were present about seventy delegates. The Maryland Agricultural College was represented by Mr. A. J. Smith, the president; Col. J. Carroll Walsh, Allen Dodge and Ezra Whitman, trustees of the college.

The great importance of this meeting brought together a goodly number of representatives from the various agricultural colleges and experiment stations throughout the country, embracing some of the most eminent men in this department of educational work. The fact that it was the first meeting called by the present Commissioner of Agriculture was doubtless an additional attraction, it being important to know what position he would hold with reference to the agricultural colleges and their special work.

After the usual organization, the proceedings of the convention opened with the delivery of the address of Commissioner Colman, which was a clear, sensible and forcible presentation of the objects, duties and possibilities of the agricultural colleges and experiment stations and the grand destiny before them for advancing the interests of agriculture. He stated that he had called the representatives of the colleges together for consultation and for a more perfect union, harmony and efficiency of action, all of which seemed to him to be more easy of accomplishment by co-operative effort. He said the colleges had done a good work and with reasonable financial support would prove to be all that a reasonable public could expect of them as useful educational agencies in the interest of agriculture. He advocated liberal aid from the National Government for experiment work, and indicated how this might be done effectually by a close co-operation with

the Department of Agriculture. He also suggested that Congress should be requested to establish signal stations at the various agricultural colleges for meteorological observations in the special interest of agriculture. Numerous other points of interests were announced in this admirable address, and the convention discussed these in connection with other important matters submitted by members of the body. President Smith entered into the discussions with a readiness and vim. He was listened to with respect and his remarks elicited outspoken approval.

Altogether, the work of the convention was a success for the purpose for which it was called, and the annual reunions which are contemplated will doubtless tend to develop more thoroughly and more efficiently the work of the colleges and cause them to be justly appreciated as most valuable and useful educational agencies for the benefit of our great industry.

We were pleased to greet among those present old and valued friends. We append extracts from the address of Commissioner Colman, which will doubtless be read with pleasure and profit.

"It was not without considerable hesitation that I assumed the responsibility of issuing a call for this convention. I thought I saw the necessity of the friends of agricultural colleges meeting together to take a reckoning, like the mariners at sea, as to their course and bearings, to ascertain whether they were satisfied with the progress that had been made and whether the haven of their hopes and expectations was likely to be reached. If, upon consultation, the journey thus far has been satisfactory there is no need of a change of course, but if, on the contrary, the progress has been slow and tedious, and has not come up to the reasonable expectations of its friends or the general public, anchor should be cast, a consultation had, the difficulties ascertained, and a new programme agreed upon.

AN ARBORETUM ON COLLEGE FARMS.

On every college farm a commencement should be made of planting an arboretum,

which should ultimately contain at least one specimen plant of every tree and shrub capable of enduring the climate of the locality, trees from all parts of the world to be included, arranged in family groups, and accurately and conspicuously labeled. This systematic arrangement should be combined with the highest degree of adaptation to landscape effect and pleasure-ground adornment.

The utility of an arboretum is as obvious and important as that of any other museum of natural history. Unlike most other museum collections, this would constantly vary in its beauty and attractions—the annual development of individual growths, with all their wonderful combinations of forms, foliage, flowers, and fruits. The opening buds in spring and the varied hues of the foliage during autumn represent extreme periods, between which each day has its own peculiar attractions, affording a field of instruction which will largely tend to increase the desire to acquire knowledge of vegetable physiology, and furnish strong incentives to the pursuit of botanical studies.

GREATER DIVERSITY OF CROPS.

In this connection I will state that this country, the best agricultural country in the world, possessing almost every variety of soil and climate, is to-day importing agricultural productions from abroad, and paying therefor tens upon tens of millions of dollars annually that could just as well be produced at home and the amount thus paid out be distributed among our toiling people. The surplus of productions in most branches of farm industry is creating such low prices for farm products that a fair compensation for their production is no longer received, and loss and suffering must ultimately ensue to the farming classes.

To the student of agriculture the necessity of a greater diversity of crops is yearly becoming more apparent, and the most inviting field that is presented is to produce such crops as our commercial needs demand from abroad, if they can be raised here, and I feel assured many of them can be, some in one part of the country and some in another. Here is a promising field for our agricultural college farms, one in which they can be of great use, and I proffer the full aid and sympathy of this De-

partment in obtaining from any nation the seeds or plants of any product that we are now importing if, in the opinion of any of the agricultural colleges, such product would find a congenial home on the farm of such institution. I expect to make such arrangements with our diplomatic and consular service as will enable me to secure all desirable plants and seeds from abroad.

SIGNAL SERVICE IN AGRICULTURAL COLLEGES.

The practical utilization in agriculture of discoveries in meteorological science is an urgent necessity of the present time. The fact will not be disputed that too little has as yet been accomplished in this direction. There have been advances in meteorology, but its practical benefits have inured more to the advantage of commerce than of agriculture.

So far as this Department is concerned it will co-operate most heartily, most thoroughly with the agricultural colleges and experiment stations of the respective States of this nation. This convention was called for the purpose of forming a bond of union and of sympathy between this department and the agricultural colleges of the country, and while under existing appropriations and usages it may not be able to do what its Commissioner might desire to have done, yet, year by year, it is hoped the way will be opened to do still more in this direction, making the agricultural colleges of the country the experimental grounds of this Department, testing everything that may prove of value to the farmer, and finally distributing the seed and plants after a thorough test to the farmers of the respective States in which the colleges are located."

Baltimore County Jerseys.

It has long been an established fact that no better Jersey stock can be found in this country than in Baltimore county, and among the Baltimore county Jerseys, few, if any, are superior to those in the herd of J. G. Clark, Esq. We took a delightful ride through Druid Hill Park and past the State Agricultural Fair Grounds, then to the mansion of Mr. Clark, which is beautifully situated amid heavily foliaged oaks,

making it a healthful and cool summer residence, while its proximity to the railway renders it a convenient house for the winter. His entire herd of Jerseys were in good condition, and the dairy houses, stables and all the surroundings were neat, clean, and had the appearance of being under the supervision of an experienced and thoughtful man. The country never looked prettier, and on our return we drove around by the Highland Park Hotel, stopped for a short time at Rock Dale Farm, and took a view of W. H. Oler's herd of Jerseys which we also found in prime condition, and the young stock were growing finely. Mr. Oler is highly favored, having a never failing stream of water running through his pasture, and also plenty of shade trees, a very desirable comfort for his stock in our hot midsummer weather.

Department of Agriculture

—ON—

Corn Crop, July 1885.

The area in maize is always nearly double the combined acreage of other cereals of the United States. It is the great crop of the country, always excepting grass, and is so distinctively American that it is grown everywhere except on the higher elevations, so that its habitat is practically as unlimited as it is restricted on other continents. Its natural rate of increase in area is 2 to 3 per cent. The substitution of maize for winter wheat that had been injured by freezing has fully doubled the usual increase. The July investigation shows an increase of 6 per cent. Very few States show any decrease. In New Hampshire, Massachusetts, and New York, and in California and New Mexico, a small contraction of area is reported. In the Atlantic coast region the enlargement is moderate, but the Gulf coast region shows a very marked increase. Tennessee reports 10 per cent., largely on account of replanting of wheat lands. The same cause is very active throughout the Western States, though oats have shared largely in extension of area from this cause.

The condition of corn is higher than in

any year since 1880, except the last. It averages 94 against 96 in 1884, and 100 in 1880. During the series of years of high production, above the average yield for six years in succession, from 1875 to 1880, the July average reached 100 twice, and in only one year, 1877, was lower than the present average, yet high condition in July gives no positive assurance of a large crop. In July, 1884, the average was 98, but the latter season was unfavorable, and the crop was below average. We cannot guarantee, for the benefit of dealers in "futures," the future uniformity of conditions affecting production. Condition in the South is quite uniformly high; it is also very good in the Middle and Eastern States. It is high in Ohio and Indiana, and in Nebraska, but in the States bordering on the Upper Mississippi the average is only about 90.

There has been a large amount of replanting throughout the West, partly because of defective seed used and partly on account of excessive moisture in the seed bed and a prevalence of cut worms that seem to have been somewhat unusual. The lessons of the past few years have been expensive, but they have not taught all farmers the economy of a careful and timely selection of seed, though much has been done in that direction by thoughtful farmers. An immense amount of labor has been lost this season in replanting because of poor seed.

There has been little complaint of local as yet. An excess of moisture on low lands has been quite generally reported, making cultivation difficult and to some extent retarding growth.

Department of Agriculture on Fruit Prospects.

APPLES.

On the 1st of June it was stated that "prospects point to a crop but little below that of an average bearing year." For an "off" year the bloom was remarkably full, especially in the New England and Middle States, where it equaled that of an ordinary bearing year. This high promise has, however, not been sustained, unfavorable conditions having operated to materially lower condition. The decline is confined to no particular section, but is reported

about the same from all the apple-growing regions.

In New England indications are for about the usual product of a non-bearing year. In Massachusetts and Connecticut considerable damage is being done by the canker-worm, *Paleacrita vernata*, and condition may be still further lowered. In New York, trees as well as fruit have suffered from this pest. Westchester County reports that the trees are being destroyed by it. Young fruit has fallen off to an unusual extent, and condition has dropped fifteen points, from 85 in June to 70 in July.

The Atlantic States, from New Jersey to North Carolina, all return much lower condition, and report the abundant promise which characterized orchards of a month ago as sadly wanting now. Some counties report injuries from insects, as curculio in New Jersey, and destructive insects and bugs in Virginia. but the usual complaint is that immature fruit is very generally falling off, no cause being assigned.

Director General Buck Calls an Agricultural Congress.

WASHINGTON, July 8.—At the agricultural convention, the following communication from Director General Buck was read to the convention by the chairman, and duly referred to the committee on resolutions:

WASHINGTON, D. C., July 8, 1885.

Hon. Norman J. Colman, United States Commissioner of Agriculture:

Dear Sir—The Board of Management of the North, Central and American Exposition, which will open at New Orleans next November for a period of five months, are preparing a list of special days, which will soon be announced to the public. One of the most important of the days decided upon is an "American Agricultural Congress," which, it is desired, should be attended by delegates from all agricultural societies, schools and colleges of the United States, Canada, Mexico and the various States of Central and South America. In brief, it is proposed to make this congress continental in its scope, to stimulate an interchange of information, to bring under one roof exhibits to illustrate our improved methods of farming implements, and the

tropical and semi-tropical products of Spanish and Portuguese America.

The time has now arrived when public sentiment demands more intimate industrial and social intercourse between the nations of this continent, and I know of nothing which would be more timely than the agricultural congress above proposed. Will you please present this matter to the convention now in session in your department, that it may take action thereon, and express its preference as to the best time for holding the proposed congress at New Orleans during either January, February or March next?

S. A. BUCK, Director General.

Live Stock Register.

Summer Management of Sheep.

Notwithstanding the millions of sheep sacrificed during the last two years, because of the low price of wool, yet there are still over 40,000,000 of sheep to be summered over in this country, which must be considered a stock interest of sufficient magnitude to require the best attention of those who prosecute it. The more experienced class of sheep owners, those who study the business, and do not believe so important and essential a branch of agriculture as the production of wool and mutton can be permanently unprofitable, are those who keep on the even tenor of their way, hold their flocks, and study how the income may be improved. Those who have faith in their business are the ones who succeed.

A census of successful farmers would not include many of the class that change from one branch of agriculture to another whenever the price of their product is unsatisfactory. The change brings a double loss—a sacrifice in the stock sold and loss in the high price paid for the new class of stock purchased. This class are always changing from one specialty to another, and thus lose all they make in the profitable years. But those who remain in the sheep industry through the present year are such as have an abiding faith in their business, and are ready to receive any suggestion of improvement.

Sheep owners have generally considered the summer as the season when sheep can take care of themselves, only requiring to

be confined to their pastures. It has been very seldom thought necessary to add anything to an ordinary pasture for sheep. But since there is now an effort made by a large class of sheep owners to develop the mutton side of the sheep industry, as well as the wool, the question is, whether the summer management should not be reversed, and sheep be considered worthy of good summer feeding, as steers intended for beef. There are now hundreds of cattle feeders who feed some form of grain ration on pasture, especially when it does not furnish an abundance of grass.

Sheep feeders should remember that those intended for mutton, at any time during the year, should be especially pushed during the warm weather. The old style farmers have, in some way, got the idea that grain is lost on pasture, but if they will reflect a moment, it must be plain that extra food, in warm weather, will all be applied to growth, as it takes little to keep up animal heat. Sheep are apt to be kept upon short pasture, requiring great diligence to pick up a living. Now, a little extra food, such as wheat bran, fed upon this short pasture, will put on more flesh than twice the amount given in winter. It is hardly safe to feed much corn to sheep in hot weather, as it heats the blood and is likely to produce inflammatory diseases. Oats and bran or middlings is the safest food. It must be remembered that good feeding increases the wool as well as the mutton. Sheep that are intended to be sold during the coming winter can now be put in good condition much cheaper than to wait until cold weather. When sheep come to the yard in the fall in good mutton order, it is easy to keep them in fine condition until time of sale in February or March. And as it takes much less grain feeding to do this on pasture than in yard, it is almost unaccountable that more sheep feeders do not practice this extra feeding on pasture. And where the flock consists largely of breeding ewes, these ewes should be fed a diet calculated to produce a good yield of milk for the lambs. There should be no fear of getting these ewes in too good condition. The lambs draw hard upon them, and most of the extra food will go to the production of milk. The lambs will be worth enough more to pay for all this extra food to the ewe, and she will be in better condition for breeding again at the proper time. In this

time of depression in the sheep industry, better feeding will greatly improve the net income. Try it.—*National Live Stock Journal*.

Feeding Corn to Horses.

Corn is the bane of the farm horse, as it is also of the horse doing any other sort of work, not because of not being sufficiently nutritious, but because it makes too much fat and not enough muscle. The horse's muscle wears away by friction. Fat also wears away under exercise, but its disappearance in nowise lessens the power for either draft or speed. On the other hand, well-nourished and vigorously exercised muscles, without a deposit of fat to keep them company, are much more efficient for any purpose for which the horse is kept than when there is a load of fat to be carried. The trainer acts upon this proposition, and works the fat off, experience having shown that the muscles, trained down by exercise until fat accumulations are removed—fattening foods being mainly abstained from—gives the best results in the case of a speedy horse. The same rule will hold good with the work horse, though modified by the degree to which the movements of the latter are slower than those of the former. If the farmer has only corn for feed, then he will be wise if he make sale of his corn, or the greater part of it, buying oats instead. If corn be used in whole or in part, the effect should be carefully noted as to the extent to which fermentation sets in, meeting this by use of salt and ashes, at once lessening the amount of corn fed. It will be found that horses fed freely on corn will eat earth when allowed access to it, as, to a degree, this neutralizes the acid generated in the stomach, and gives relief. Corn may be rated as the natural food for fattening stock—such as are fed for their flesh. All kinds of fattening stock are made ripe on corn, with the addition of an allowance of coarse feed for fodder. Ripeness in the horse is a very different thing from ripeness in the fatted steer, for in the one case it means full vigor of muscle with an absence of fat, and in the other an abundance of fat, no matter how much; and as to the muscle, no matter how inefficient for work.—*National Live Stock Journal*.

To Start a Balky Horse in Double Harness.

The habit of balking in double harness can be easily overcome by means of a cord one-fourth of an inch in diameter and sixteen feet in length, an iron ring about 1½ inches in diameter and a piece of strong twine some two feet in length. Fasten the ring securely by means of the twine to the back strap, where it is crossed by the breeching strap, then double the cord, placing the loop formed by the centre under the balky horse's tail like a crupper. Cross the cord, and pass both ends through the ring attached to the back strap. Carry them forward and pass them through that terret ring on the saddle of the harness which is next to the balky candidate's mate, then carry them through the hame ring of the kind horse and fasten them, leaving a little slack, but not sufficient to allow the balky horse to settle into the breeching of the harness. After completing this arrangement, step back, take the reins and start slowly. Of course the balky one will attempt to hang back, but the sensation produced by the cord will divert his attention in a very short time, and before he realizes what he is doing he will put his shoulder to the collar and help draw the load. This is much better than whipping, and a few lessons will generally effect a permanent cure.—*Cultivator and Country Gentleman.*

Western Live Stock.

A recent report of the Department of Agriculture gives some interesting statistics as to the number of cattle in the Western States and Territories this year as compared with last. New Mexico, in one year, makes a gain of 315,562, Wyoming 117,000, Montana 82,600, Colorado 76,560, Arizona 58,000, Nebraska 178,500, and Kansas 115,200 head. Illinois loses 114,280 head, while Indiana, her next neighbor on the east, gains 8,429, and Ohio and Michigan, a little further east, both make serious losses. In the other States showing a decrease, the loss is small in all except Texas, which shows a decrease of 132,000, and in Missouri, which loses 41,291, though the falling behind in Missouri is offset by a handsome gain in Iowa. In New Mexico, where the greatest in-

crease is reported, the loss during the past winter was very light, and Arizona reports a slight mortality. Nebraska and Wyoming met with heavier losses than usual, and Colorado and Montana suffered badly in spots. Yet five per cent is thought to be a full estimate of the winter's mortality, which is insignificant as compared with the wonderful gains above.

The National Cattle Growers' Association of America will hold a convention in the Exposition Building, Chicago, on Tuesday and Wednesday, November 17 and 18, 1885, at which time and place the Eighth Annual American Fat Stock Show will also be in progress. This, the Third National Convention of Stockmen held in Chicago, will be composed of delegates duly appointed by the Cattle Growers', Breeders' and Dairymen's Associations and Societies, State Boards of Agriculture, Agricultural Colleges and the Agricultural Press of all parts of the United States, Great Britain and the Canadas and also of delegates at large, appointed especially by the Governors to represent the cattle interests of the several States and Territories. The object of this Convention is to induce and afford opportunity for full and free discussion of the various interests of the cattle and kindred industries, and consideration of any important problems connected with the cattle business, including the best methods of breeding, maturing and marketing neat cattle and their several products.

WEANING A CALF.—S. P. Frank, Iowa, in *Amer. Agri'st*: A calf should be weaned gradually. In the management of all kinds of live stock, sudden changes of feeding are to be avoided, especially with young animals. One can do anything with a calf, by gradual change of food. When a calf has been fed with milk and a change is to be made, water is gradually added, until only water is given, and solid food is substituted for the milk. The change may be begun when the calf is three months old, and may occupy a whole month. At this season there is nothing better than grass, but a little grain food will be well repaid. Our method is to begin with about a handful of fine corn meal and fine bran mixed in equal portions, and increase the grain gradually until half a pint a day is given.

Ensilage.

I built a silo three years ago and have used it ever since. I think from personal experience that a man keeping cows and making the dairy his specialty cannot afford to do without one. Ensilage keeps up the flow of milk, is quickly eaten by cows and gives them in winter the sleek appearance they have in summer. The cattle eat all of the ensilage. There is no waste of the stalks. The amount of fodder that is made from an acre of good corn is surprising. I do not claim that siloed corn is more nutritious than when cut green and fed to cattle, but I do claim it does not lose any value by siloing. Last year I put green clover into my silo and it came out fine. The sheep relished the clover most, while the cattle liked the corn the best. I favor corn for ensilage because it produces the most weight to the acre. Without ensilage I should be lost in winter and it would be hard for me to go back to the old way.—*N. Hall, Yates county, N. Y., in Homestead.*

TRAINING OF A YOUNG BULL.—A bull may be trained so as to be quite safe, but under any circumstances should have a ring in its nose. This is a means of subjection which is never forgotten by the animal. The first attempt to use its horns, either in play or anger, should be sharply punished with a rawhide, which will be more feared by the animal than a club. At first, and ever afterward, whenever a bull is loose in a yard or field, the attendant should carry the rawhide with him. A great safeguard is to make the bull work; fit him with a harness and a light wagon, and make him do whatever work he can with a wagon or cart, and also in a tread power. This will make him docile, and improve his breeding value.

Grangers' Inter-State Pic-Nic and Exhibition for 1885, at Williams' Grove, opens Monday, August 31st, and closes Saturday, September 5th. Williams' Grove is located on an island in the Yellow Breeches Creek, on the D. & M. Branch of the Cumberland Valley Railroad, thirteen miles southwest of Harrisburg, the capital of Pennsylvania. For information, address R. H. Thomas, Manager, Mechanicsburg, Pa.

POUTRY HOUSE.

Chapters on Chickens.

BY EXPERIENCE.

CHAPTER VIII.

YOUNG STOCK.

1. The young stock will not well bear neglect, but requires attention from the beginning.

2. To induce rapid growth it must have the very best of food and a variety of it. It should be fed oftener than you feed the old stock—more abundantly and more nourishing food. It should have all it can consume, but never more than it will eat at one time.

3. Whole or cracked corn will not harm young stock. A liberal supply of bone meal is beneficial. Some stimulating food, but not overmuch of it.

4. Give the young stock all the milk you can afford. If on the farm, it will be worth more to the chickens than to the pigs. Give the chickens all they will take and the balance to the pigs.

5. Change their drinking water at least twice a day and never allow their fountains to run dry. A few rusty nails in their water will prove a tonic, and as the cold weather approaches a pinch of cayenne pepper in the water twice a week will help them.

6. If their yard is not extensive plenty of green food and some meat scraps will be needed by them. Gravel, oyster or clam shells, charcoal and bone broken fine or coarsely ground.

7. Provide plenty of room in the roosting house and perfect shelter from the cold, the rain and the snow. Tarred paper is one of the very best of linings for roosting houses. Let the ventilation be good by a free circulation of air under the roof of the roosting houses.

8. All the light-weight chickens should go to roost by the beginning of September unless of very late broods. The Asiatics will huddle together on the floor at night unless specially attended to. Put them, one by one, on the roost by hand. They will pile on each other if allowed to huddle on the floor and sometimes get smothered.

When it is quite dark place them side by side on the roosts, which should be not more than a foot from the floor. After a few evenings they will learn for themselves.

9. As early as convenient separate the stock you desire for yourself from the general flock. Of course they will be the choicest of your birds and only to be parted with at high prices.

10. About the first of November divide your young stock into small flocks. I have found one vigorous cock to fifteen pullets the best division.

11. When the pullets begin to lay, if the eggs are for use and market, have no cocks with them. Dispose of your young stock early if you have not ample room for them, otherwise expect disease and death and general failure. Take the best of care as to cleanliness, regularity of feeding and watering. Do not stint your labor towards the young stock, for it will always tell in their maturity.

12. If you have more than one breed of early chicks they should be separated by September 1st or they will mix. If you wish strictly pure stock never, *never* allow two or more breeds to run together—then you are safe. Once served, a pullet is never safe after it.

13. With this care you will have no danger of disease, no weakness of legs and every prospect of success in raising chickens which will be early layers and which will command good prices in market and from the fancier or which will be pleasing to the eye and win prizes in the exhibition room.

Poultry Manure.

Ordinarily much of the value of hen manure is lost to the poulterer by allowing it to remain on the floors of the hen houses and covering it with ashes or lime to keep in the ammonia, and then tramped under foot until it becomes a part of the floor itself. In new States and Territories many do not miss manure in the new soil, but the time is not far distant when the farmers, gardeners and cottages will need it on their worn-out soils. Hen manure is one of the most valuable fertilizers used on land for flowers and vegetables. Every practical agriculturist and florist knows the value of guano as a fertilizer, and yet it seems strange with this fact before them that they do not

pay more attention to collecting and applying it on land.—*Poultry Monthly*.

The Poultry Boom.

The unusual interest now manifest in poultry culture is the result of the poultry exhibitions and fanciers' labors of the past twenty years. This interest is the healthy outgrowth of well-directed labor for that end. The country has got to increase its consumption of poultry and eggs fully 100 per cent. before it will equal France, and there is no reason why Americans should not feast on broiled chickens as well as any nation on earth. As yet there has never been a season when the broiler market was overstocked. The days are plenty when your order for broiled chicken at our large restaurants and hotels is sent back with the reply, "We cannot serve broiled chicken to-day." We need never fear that a time will come when early chicks will not sell well.

Bee Notes for August.

Beekeepers are liable to make a mistake at this season, either in supplying their stocks with surplus boxes, or extracting honey too late. We should keep in mind the conditions of successful wintering. I am fully convinced that the cause of the heavy losses in bees during the winter, may be found in the conditions produced by securing too large a yield of surplus honey, and too little attention to proper preparation for wintering. The gain in quantity of honey secured, is much less than the resulting loss sustained in bees. If the colonies store late in the season, more honey than is required for wintering, the combs containing it can easily be removed, and preserved for use when needed in the spring. This late gathered honey, which is usually of poor quality, if properly used, will be found as a rule, to be worth more to the beekeeper, than will be realized for it when sold. Much might be written upon the great need of obtaining less honey than usual, and the importance of making every effort to produce only that which is fine in quality, and in the best marketable shape. The honey market has become much unsettled; this is largely the result of a great effort on the part of beekeepers to secure large yields

of poorly cured honey, both in the extracted form and in the comb, partly sealed in scantily filled boxes. What the honey market of the future is to be, will depend greatly upon the action of the beekeepers. We must first perform our own part well in producing a standard article, after which we may make reasonable demands of the trade. Having brought our products up to a proper standard, let us make suitable effort to bring them into notice. Well arranged exhibits at our County fairs, will do much towards establishing a profitable home trade, which is of great importance to every beekeeper. We have injured ourselves by neglecting to create such a home market. The custom of sending our honey from all quarters to the New York market, has done more to injure our industry, than any other one thing. If every beekeeper would realize the truth of this statement, and do his part in establishing a home trade for a high grade of honey, we should soon have as firm a market for our various products, as do producers in other branches of agriculture.—*L. C. Root, in American Agriculturist.*

The poultry discussion at Boston recently brought forth the fact that hen manure is a most valuable fertilizer, and worth, in comparison with commercial fertilizers, 75 cents to \$1.50 per barrel. Those who set the price as low as 75 cents to \$1 were willing to buy all that is offered. Those who advocated \$1.50 per barrel sold when they could get that. Hence, \$1.15 to \$1.25 must be considered a fair valuation for such manure. A handful in a hill with other barn-yard manure increases the crop over one-fourth. For strawberries, carrots, corn, and peas, it is the best of dressings.

AMERICAN EXHIBITION of the Arts, Inventions, Manufactures, Products and Resources of the United States of America, opens at Earl's Court, Kensington, London, (England), May 1st, 1886. One of the most instructive and interesting features will be the "Industrial Hall," devoted to an exhibition of the most recently improved machinery, in motion, and appliances, worked by skilled American artisans and Mechanics—and producing a large variety of those novelties, in the manufac-

ture of which they have attained such a degree of excellence.

IMPORTANT NOTICE.—All parties intending to make application for space in the American Exhibition are requested to do so without delay. The space being limited, manufacturers and others interested will understand the necessity of an early application. The regulations, and forms of application for space, may be had from the following firms:

The American Exchange in Europe, 162, Broadway, New York; Thomas Cook & Son, 261, Broadway, New York; R. F. Downing & Co., 20, Exchange Place, New York; The World Travel Company, 207, Broadway, New York.

HORTICULTURAL.

The Gregory Apple.

Doubtless this old apple is known to many of the readers of the MARYLAND FARMER. Having been so long grown in Eastern Virginia, it has doubtless long ago found its way to the older parts of Maryland also. Yet we never see it named in the catalogues, at least not under this name, and perhaps it is not to be found in any nursery in the land, except a few small ones in this part of Virginia.

The Gregory is a summer apple, and an old variety, but how old I do not know. Yet I suppose it to be at least 200 years old, for I know of living trees now that are 100 years old, and still likely to survive many years longer. Perhaps the apple originated in England or France, and was brought to this country by some of the early settlers. Its great longevity on good soil, its productiveness, and its habit of bearing fruit every year unless killed by frost, have made it a general favorite throughout the brandy-making section of Virginia.

There is no better cider apple known, at least the farmers of this section say that, and I agree with them fully. For the quantity and strength of its cider, and consequently the brandy that the cider will yield, the Gregory is unsurpassed. It is also excellent for hogs, and for drying for home use. On account of the amount of cider in the fruit, it seldom dries out of as bright a color as other kinds, but the fruit is sweeter and requires very little

sugar for pies.

This apple is in season here from the first of August to the middle of September. From the first it is good for pies or other cooking, but is very poor for desert till about the first of September, when a nice mellow one would be pronounced fine eating by most lovers of fruit. It has greater vitality and longer life than any kind of apple I know of. At least three-fourths of all the brandy orchards here are of this variety. The Coddling is second choice, but not nearly the equal of the Gregory. B. W. J.

Surry County, Va.

Strawberries Next Season From Pot-Layed Plants.

It is nearly twenty years since we first recommended those who wished to have a strawberry-bed that would bear fruit the next year, to set out in August or September, plants that were layered in pots. At that time, one could not make use of these plants unless he layered them himself. At the present time, this method is so general, that nearly every grower of small fruits, and each general nursery establishment, offer each season the leading varieties in pots; some, indeed, make it such a prominent feature, that they issue special catalogues of pot-layered strawberries. Such plants, it is true, cost more than natural layers—that is, those from runners that have taken root in the soil of the bed. The difference in price is not very great, and there are so many who prefer to pay it, to waiting a whole year for strawberries of their own growing, that the sale of such plants is now an important part of the business of those who sell strawberry plants. These pot-layers, if set out this month, or next, if in good soil, will with proper care, give a good crop, if not a full one, next season. We were quite amused, a few years ago, to see this method announced in a French journal as a new discovery, and one likely to revolutionize strawberry culture; in this country it has been practised these many years, and is gaining in popularity. The advantage of this method is due to the fact, that when an ordinary strawberry plant is set out—such plants being runners that have taken root in the bed where the parent plants grew—it must grow a whole season

in its new place—before it can bear a crop. Such plants may, and often do, produce a few berries here and there, but nothing like a crop. Had these plants remained in the old bed, they would have borne fruit. In taking them up, the roots were broken, and the plant so checked that, when planted again, it must have a whole season to recover, and to prepare its blossom-buds. Pot-layered plants are prepared, by filling small pots with a rich compost, and plunging them in the soil of a bed, down to the rims. The end of a strawberry runner, or rather the bud, or the unrooted plant at the end of a runner, is laid on the soil in one of these pots, and held in place by means of a clod, a small stone, or a peg of some kind. Roots will soon form and strike into the soil of the pot, instead of the soil of the bed, and usually having richer soil, the young plant will grow rapidly. When it has abundant roots, the runner connecting with the old plant is to be severed, and the plant removed to a bed near by. The bed being prepared, the ball of earth containing the roots is turned out of the pot, and at once planted in the bed, the soil being watered if dry. The roots of the plant are not disturbed, and the growth is not at all checked, but goes on just as if it were an undisturbed layer that had established its roots in the soil of the old bed.—*Amer. Agr*

Progress of the South.

New Enterprises Formed This Year—A Gratifying Outlook.

The wonderful industrial progress of the South, about which so much has been written of late, is very pointedly set forth by the Baltimore *Manufacturers' Record* in its semi-annual review of the industrial interests of the Southern States, in which is given the name, location and character of business of all manufacturing and mining enterprises organized in that section during the first half of 1885. It is shown that, despite dull times, there has been great activity in the establishment of new enterprises in all the Southern States. The *Record's* list, including a wide range of industries, such as furnaces, foundries, machine shops, steel works, glass works, gas works, cotton compresses, cotton seed oil mills carriage and wagon factories, sash, door and blind factories, agricultural im-

plement factories, ice factories, fertilizer factories, tobacco factories, soap factories, potteries, marble and slate quarrying companies, and companies to mine coal, iron ore, gold, silver, mica, oil, natural gas, &c. The South's progress is thus a steady advance in all lines, and not an unhealthy, because over-stimulated, growth of any any one industry. The amount of capital in cluding capital stock of incorporated companies represented by the new manufacturing and mining enterprises organized in the south during the last six months, and in the enlargement of old plants and the rebuilding of mills after being burned, aggregates \$36,534,000, divided among the fourteen Southern States as follows: Alabama, \$3,580,000; Arkansas, \$375,000, Florida, \$479,090; Georgia, \$1,580,000; Kentucky, \$10,621,000, Louisiana, \$1,407,000; Maryland, \$4,633,000; Mississippi, \$416,000; North Carolina, \$1,535,000; South Carolina, \$427,000; Tennessee, \$1,802,009, Texas, \$1,319,000; Virginia, \$2,008,000; West Virginia, \$6,352,000.

Among the new enterprises in Maryland are the Chesapeake Gas Company, a large screw factory, a number of machine shops, fertilizer factories, flour mills, mining companies, etc. It is to be regretted that Baltimore machinery manufacturers are not making a more vigorous effort to secure the rapidly-increasing machinery trade of the South. Of the millions of dollars that the South is now spending for machinery of all kinds, the great bulk goes to Northern and Western cities. Baltimore merchants are vigorously pushing their trade in every part of the South, but our manufacturers, with a comparatively few exceptions, are permitting this immensely valuable trade to be captured by others.—*Baltimore American*.

The Care of Closets.

What a nightmare to the housekeeper as warm weather draws on, is the thought of her closets! To the average masculine mind there is little difference in these, but to a woman, each needs its own peculiar care. There are the store-room or dark closet, in which potatoes, apples and what winter vegetables may have been bought in bulk are kept, and whose shelves frequently bear the family stock of jellies, jams and pickles; the refrigerator closet,

where the provisions in daily use, butter, milk, etc., are placed; the kitchen closet, which, besides its collection of tins and crockery, generally contains the flour barrel, sugar bucket and various other dry groceries; the pot closet, where are ranged the great army of sauce pans, spiders and kettles; the china closet; the cupboards of sideboard and corner cabinets; the bedroom closets, with their half worn winter clothing; the linen closet, where are extra blankets and quilts unused in the warm weather, and last and greatest, that bugbear of most homes—the lumber closet. While the "nasty-particular" housekeeper—the term so aptly applied to the fussy, exacting, "pernickety" woman, who is in an agony if a single fly is seen in her kitchen or if a speck of dirt can be found in any part of her domain—is not a character to be admired, her example might be imitated with profit in the care of these receptacles for the many articles one wishes to protect from the dust or does not care to display openly. I have heard of one housekeeper who refused to have any closets in her kitchen, but placed all the pots, pans and other utensils on hooks or shelves in full sight, saying that if any dirt accumulated upon them she wanted to know it. But this is not usually the case, and where it is, much extra work and bother are involved.—*Christine Terhune Herrick, in Good Housekeeping*.

LITERARY NOTES.

The August issue of LITERARY LIFE being the first number of the fourth volume, will contain the first part of Joaquin Miller's great poem, "The Sword of the South." In this remarkable poem the poet puts forth the highest energy of his nature. He espouses the cause of the South with all the ardor of a passionate soul, and gives a voice to patriotism, subdued by forgiveness. He rescues from oblivion those spirits of courage and heroism, which apart from their sectional significance, men will not willingly let die. LITERARY LIFE is in sympathy with the South and has been highly commended by Mary Ashley Townsend, Paul H. Hayne, Judge Gayarre and others of note. Price \$1 00 per year.

The August HARPER's will have full-page pictures both by E. A. Abbey and Alfred Parsons; the former a frontispiece illustrating "A Love Song," by Austin Dobson, the latter one of the charming illustrations of Woodworth's sonnets, "Bees that Soar."

A Singular Book.

SCINTALLATING WITH SARCASM AND
BRILLIANT WITH TRUTH.

New York Correspondence American Rural Home.

- Chap. I. "Has Malaria;" goes to Florida.
Chap. II. "Overworked;" goes to Europe.
Chap. III. "Has Rheumatism;" goes to Ems.
Chap. IV. Has a row with his Doctor!

The above chapters, Mr. Editor, I find in a book recently published by an anonymous author. I have read a deal of sarcasm in my day but I never read anything equal to the sarcasm herein contained: I suspect the experience portrayed is a personal one; in short, the author intimates as much on page 31. Let me give you a synopsis:

"Malaria" as it states, is the cloak with which superficial physicians cover up a multitude of ill feelings which they do not understand, and do not much care to investigate. It is also a cover for such diseases as they cannot cure. When they advise their patient to travel or that he has overworked and needs rest and is probably suffering from malaria, it is a confession of ignorance or of inability. The patient goes abroad. The change is a tonic and for a time feels better. Comes home. Fickle appetite, frequent headaches, severe colds, cramps, sleeplessness, irritability, tired feelings, and general unfitness for business are succeeded in due time by alarming attacks of rheumatism which flits about his body regardless of all human feelings.

It is muscular,—in his back. Articular,—in his joints. Inflammatory, my! how he fears it will fly to his heart! Now off he goes to the springs. The doctor sends him there, of course, to get well; at the same time he does not really want him to die on his hands!

That would hurt his business!

Better for a few days. Returns. After awhile neuralgia transfixes him. He bloats; cannot breathe; has pneumonia; cannot walk; cannot sleep on his left side; is fretful; very nervous and irritable; is pale and flabby; has frequent chills and fevers; everything about him seems to go wrong; becomes suspicious; musters up strength and demands to know what is killing him!

"Great heavens!" he cries, "why have you kept me so long in ignorance?"

"Because," said the doctor, "I read your fate five year ago. I thought best to keep you comfortable and ignorant of the facts."

He dismisses his doctor, but too late! His fortune has all gone to fees

But him, what becomes of him?

The other day a well known Wall Street banker said to me "it is really astonishing how general bright's disease is becoming. Two of my personal friends are now dying of it. But it is not incurable I am certain, for my nephew was recently cured when his physicians said recovery was impossible. The case seems to me to be a wonderful one." This gentleman formerly represented his government in a foreign country.

He knows, appreciates and declares the value of that preparation, because his nephew, who is a son of Danish Vice-Consul Schmidt, was pronounced incurable when the remedy, Warner's safe cure, was begun. "Yes" said his father, "I was very skeptical but since taking that remedy the boy is well." I regret to note that ex-President Arthur is said to be a victim of this terrible disease. He ought to live but the probabilities are that since authorized remedies can not cure him, his physicians will not advise him to save his life, as so many thousands have done, by the use of Warner's safe cure which Gen. Christiansen, at Drexal, Morgan & Co.'s told me he regarded "as a wonderful remedy."

Well I suspect the hero of the book cured himself by the same means. The internal evidence points very strongly to this conclusion.

I cannot close my notice of this book better than by quoting his advice to his readers:

"If, my friend, you have such an experience as I have portrayed, do not put your trust in physicians to the exclusion of other remedial agencies. They have no monopoly over disease and I personally know that many of them are so very 'conscientious' that they would far prefer that their patients should go to Heaven direct from their powerless hands than that they should be saved to earth by the use of any 'unauthorized' means."

And that the author's condemnation is too true, how many thousands duped, and yet rescued, as he was, can personally testify.

GOOD THINGS FOR THE TABLE.

STEWED CARROTS—Scrape the carrots and cut them in half; then cut them up into small strips, put them in a stew pan with a little salt, and enough water to cover them and let them simmer until quite tender; then drain and replace them in the pan with about two ounces of butter, dredge well with flour and enough water to thoroughly moisten; let them come to a boil, and serve very hot.

CORN MUFFINS.—One pint of corn meal, one pint of flour, one teaspoonful salt, two teaspoonfuls cream tartar and one of soda, one cupful white sugar, two eggs, one tablespoonful of melted butter or half a cupful of sour cream, and sweet milk to make a batter like pound cake. Beat eggs very thoroughly and then add the other ingredients. Sift the cream tartar and soda both into the flour. Bake in the oven in muffin rings or little pans placed in a hot dripping-pan.

CRACKER PUDDING.—Two quarts of milk, fifteen Boston crackers, six eggs, three cupfuls sugar, one-half pound of butter, one pound of raisins, plenty of nutmeg and cinnamon, a little salt. Cream the sugar and butter as for cake, then add the crackers rolled fine, and the milk, etc. Bake in a deep earthen dish four or five hours; stir occasionally during the first hour, keeping it covered until nearly done, then uncover to let it brown. To be eaten cold. Very nice with whipped cream.

CLAM SOUP.—Open fifty small round, raw clams; put the clams, *without the black*, into a chopping bowl and chop very fine; put them into a saucepan with the liquor and a cup of water; let them stew slowly for an hour; let one quart of milk come to a boil, adding butter the size of an egg, and pepper to taste; roll four crackers and add to the clams a few minute, before taking up. Put the clams into a tureen then add the milk before sending to the table.

SUMMER DRINKS.—Water, if properly filtered or boiled if of doubtful quality, is the most wholesome drink for a continuance, but some of the following may be found useful and pleasant occasionally:—Any kind of fruit syrup mixed with iced water will make a delicious summer drink, and if a few drops of vinegar or lemon juice be added it will be all the more refreshing. The French syrup, called Orgeat, which is an emulsion made with barley, is also good. The following is always liked:—A pint of milk, mixed with a bottle of Apollinaris water, a little ice and sugar to taste; shake well together and serve in tumblers with nutmeg grated on the top.

List of State Agricultural Fairs.

American Institute, New York.	Sept. 30, Dec. 5
California, Sacramento.	Sept. 7, 19
Central Ontario, Hamilton.	Sept. 21, 25
Connecticut, Meriden.	Sept. 15, 18
Delaware, Dover.	Sept. 28, Oct. 3
Illinois, Chicago.	Sept. 14, 19
Illinois Fat Stock, Chicago.	Nov. 10, 19
Indiana, Indianapolis.	Sept. 28, Oct. 3
Iowa, Des Moines.	Sept. 4, 11
Kansas, Lawrence.	Sept. 7, 12
Kansas, Topeka.	Sept. 14, 19
Kansas City, (Mo.) Fat Stock.	Oct. 29, Nov. 4
Kentucky, Lexington.	Aug. 25, 29
Louisville, Louisville.	Aug. 15 Oct. 24
Maine, Lewistown.	Sept. 21, 25
Maryland, Hagerstown.	Oct. 20, 23
Massachusetts Horticultural, Boston.	Sept. 15, 18
Michigan, Kalamazoo.	Sept. 14, 18
Milwaukee Industrial.	Sept. 2, Oct. 17
Minneapolis Industrial.	Aug. 31, Sept. 5
Minnesota, St. Paul.	Sept. 7, 12
Montana, Helena.	Aug. 24, 29
Nebraska, Lincoln.	Sept. 11, 18
New-England, Bangor, Me.	Sept. 1, 5
New Hampshire, Manchester.	Sept. 21, 24
New Jersey, Waverley.	Sept. 14, 18
New-York, Albany.	Sept. 10, 16
North Carolina, Raleigh.	Oct. 12, 17
Ohio, Columbus.	Aug. 31, Sept. 4
Ontario Provincial, London.	Sept. 7, 12
Oregon, Salem.	Sept. 21, 26
Pennsylvania, Philadelphia.	Sept. 27, Oct. 7
Rhode Island, Providence.	Sept. 21, 25
St. Louis, St. Louis.	Oct. 5, 10
St. Louis Exposition.	Sept. 9, Oct. 24
South Carolina, Columbia.	Nov. 10, 13
Toronto Industrial.	Sept. 9, 18
Tri State Toledo, Ohio.	Sept. 7, 12
Vermont, Burlington.	Sept. 7, 11
Virginia, Richmond.	Oct. 21, 23
West Virginia, Wheeling.	Sept. 7, 12
West Virginia Central, Clarksburg.	Sept. 22, 25
Wisconsin, Madison.	Sept. 7, 11

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Our readers will excuse any errors of omission or commission they may detect in this issue of the MARYLAND FARMER as the Editor is away enjoying his summer vacation. He is making a rather extended tour North, and our readers will doubtless ere long have the benefit of what he may see and hear that may be new or interesting to agriculturalists.

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